





It is also saved from young Gherkin the Plunger, who would still more probably ruin the ward-room mess at blind hooky. It is a younger son's, a poor gentleman's profession, more than the Army is, and this accounts for the undoubted fact that, especially in garrison towns, military men have somewhat of the pull over naval men in the eyes of the fair sex. When you get hold of a naval man who to the full frankness and cordiality of the service adds the refinement and culture of a modern age, you find him all that an English gentleman needs to be. A strong, manly simplicity of nature, a shyness which is not gauche, a homeliness which is not raw, these are the distinctive characteristics of the naval man. There are great gentlemen and great snobs in both Army and Navy, and there are wise men and fools in both. But there is a particular kind of fool which the Army breeds in larger numbers than the Navy.

And we specify him because he illustrates the difference of the soil. We mean the affected, lisping, and haw-haw fool; and he explains his great rarity in the Navy by the fact that, being caught so very young, his ears are clipped before they have time to grow. This happy result is due to that most important fact already referred to, the early age at which youngsters begin naval life. They enter not as young men, though they are officially called "the young gentlemen," but as boys—boys of thirteen or fourteen, who only yesterday were dining in the nursery, and who never were masters of more than a sovereign at a time up to the period of their undertaking to defend the commerce and independence of Great Britain. The midshipman's mess accordingly is a kind of public school, governed by a rough public opinion of its own, which shows no mercy to affectation or humbug, and has not much tenderness even for gentle forms of weakness or oddity. A bore is laughed at, a sneak is "cut," and a very obnoxious bore or sneak runs the risk of being "clobbered"—a punishment inflicted with a dirk scabbard on the part marked out by nature and history for the purpose. This kind of thing knocks the priggishness out of a fellow early.

And the duties of his daily life are favourable to his development in a natural way. He has to command a boat. He has to command "a top." He is every now and then called upon for the exercise of an independent judgment. Is there too much wind to take the cutter off to the ship, or may it wait till moderate? Can the men, or any of them, be trusted to leave the landing place without getting themselves drunk, and their young commander into a scrape? Thus he learns to command while he is learning to obey. He has much freedom, and yet he is under strict control, while the very nature of his work performed aloft, in boats at all hours of the day and night, in the open air during all weathers, in constant contact with the rough side of life, makes an off-hand, free-spoken, decisive, and yet mobile man of him. A special essay might be written on the Navy as a public school; and indeed, a parent might do worse than send his son into the service for a few years as a preparation for any walk in life whatever.

#### Muzzling the Press.

MR. J. C. DUNN AND HIS LEGAL ADVISER.

TERMINAL AND OBEY!

There are many ways of killing a dog. A dog of arsenic is one effectual way, an ounce of attempts being made to despatch "favourites" by choking them with nice soft butter. Mr. J. C. Dunn, now residing at Tientsin, sends us a lump of this commodity, with carefully prepared directions by Mr. R. E. Wainwright, who writes as follows:—

Sir, I am instructed by Mr. J. C. Dunn, at present residing at Tientsin, to write to you under the following circumstances. From time to time, during the past year especially, references have been made to Mr. Dunn in the *Shanghai Mercury*, in letters from Tientsin.

[We omit the remainder of this paragraph, not wishing to stain the fair name of our evening contemporary by publishing Mr. Wainwright's language.]

The writer of these objectionable references and his past history are well known to my client. The letters to the *Mercury* have of late been discontinued and the person referred to now writes to the *Shanghai Courier*, always, as my client believes, following his end in view, namely, the levy of blackmail.

The last reference to himself noticed by my client in the *Courier* was that he was to be Manager of a new Peking Bank, &c. The statement has no foundation. It is not libellous but it is offensive, as it draws enquiries from friends, in England, and might, in certain conceivable cases, do injury.

My client thinks it possible, however, that some day you, through ignorance of the character of your correspondent, may print some statement distinctly defamatory and injurious. In that case my client tells me, he should promptly seek to vindicate himself by legal process against your paper. In the meantime he asks me to give you, as I now do, formal warning that he will vigorously resent any hurt or defamation.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
R. E. WAINWRIGHT.

Jno. G. Thirkell, Esq.

Shanghai, 16th February, 1888.

The Editor of the *N. C. Daily News* wishes to choke off all Germans here from praising their noble and esteemed Minister by soundly abusing them. We shall see if the remedy applied succeeds. Mr. J. C. Dunn muzzles us with a lawyer's letter having got the *Mercury* under full control. We know how, when and where. We had a letter from Mr. A. M. M. on the subject. Great events must be pending in the North, or why this unnatural anxiety. Mr. J. C. Dunn, of all persons in the East, should know from his own personal experience, that we do not publish all communications sent to us in the *Courier*. On many occasions we have consigned his letters, written, as we believed, to serve his personal ends, to the waste-paper basket. We cut him short for his abuse of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, and then he was taken under the wings of the *N. C. Daily News*. His game to muzzle us with a lawyer's letter is contemptible. What have we to do with statements that have appeared in the *Mercury*? We have not libelled him. Let him cry out when he is hurt. What is he now after, this ever mysterious one? If his dealings in Tientsin and Peking are straightforward and honest, he need not fear the light of the Press. Why, then, Mr. J. C. Dunn, do you warn us? Are you on unsafe ground? Have you run the length of your tether? Pray explain why you should be so solicitous for our welfare and prosperity. We are sure you deserve the full confidence of all those for whom you have negotiated, and it was quite a mistake for the Chinese, during the interviews on the Telegraph Convention, to imagine for a moment, that you held a retainer from the foreign companies. And a most praiseworthy feature of your character is that you always attend to your own business. The affairs of others never concern you. We, however, have to look after the public, and when duty calls we always hope to be able to perform our part. To accept your advice, we require "black mail" down. It is 15,000. Not a cent less.—*Shanghai Courier*.

#### A STORY OF LINCOLN.

General Charles L. Williams, an intimate friend of President Lincoln, noticed him going by his office window, day after day, her shabby dress getting more shabby, her sweet, refined face more sad and worn, her step more weary, her looks more desponding, until his good heart was touched, and he made inquiries to learn who she was. His friend said: "Why, General, she is Mrs. Wadsworth from Vermont. She has a boy in the army, a little fellow of thirteen, who ran away to join. He is now across the river, on the Potomac. She has lost two sons in the battle of Bull Run, and this boy is her last. She is a poor widow, and she is trying to get the boy discharged. She went to the Secretary, but he stuck his thumbs in his vest armpits and remarked:—

"Madam, I'm glad we have him. That's just what boys are good for!" She has given it up and is going home in despair!"

"No! by the gods! she is not going home in despair!" exclaimed General Williams. "Bring her to my office. I will authenticate her story, and I will place it before the President myself!"

General Williams went to the White House and told the story to Mr. Lincoln. That strange, homely face, full of grief and humor, pathos and fun, steadfastness, will, patience, sweetness—a face unlike that of any man who has graced the world with so great a spirit before or since—softened and grew tender as a mother's. Without a word he signed an order for the child's discharge, and then said, simply: "Bring them to me."

That evening when the boy had been brought to Washington, clothed in citizen's dress and united with his mother, General Williams accompanied them to the Executive Mansion.

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"Madam, kneel only to your God. You have a right to your boy! You have given two sons to your country! Take your youngest back to your heart. Have you any money, madam, to go home with?"

"I have enough to take me to New York," she uttered, flatteringly. "There, I think, friends will help me."

"No—here!" and he pressed a five-cent note into her hand. "A dollar for you, you runaway youngster!" he said, cheerfully, "go home and stay there. And remember, if I ever catch you in the army again, I will give you such a whipping as you never had in your life! God bless you both!" he added, reverently, patting the boy's curls, "and God speed."

I wonder if that mother is living to-day! I wonder if that boy grew to be a man, feeling that he was crowned by the gentle touch of Abraham Lincoln upon his brow.—*Boston Herald*.

#### CURES FOR INSOMNIA.

A LONG LIST OF SIMPLE REMEDIES FOR SLEEPLESSNESS.

It will be interesting to collect the many remedies that have been suggested for sleeplessness. A hot shower bath at bedtime cleanses the skin and predisposes to sleep; it is claimed. The "one sure and safe way is to take a brisk walk of a mile or two before going to bed and then, after the walk, hold the head under a stream of cold water. This, however, should be done when the habit of sleeplessness first begins. A business man with a mechanical turn of mind should fix up his attic as a carpenter's shop, and spend an hour therein after supper. A walk of two or three miles a day is sufficient; says one writer, while another maintains that nothing will do but horseback riding. Again, relief from sleeplessness can be found by wetting a linen kerchief, folding it and placing it under the back of the neck, with a dry cloth under the kerchief to protect the pillow. Still again, warm the feet by friction, extra slippers, etc., and cool the head either in a draft or with cold water or ice. One sufferer has palliated the distress by sitting in a chimney corner, reading and eating by turns until the demon of insomnia desired to depart.

A physician writes that the evening should be a period of relaxation and recreation, relief from care and anxiety to be found in cheerful conversation, pleasant games and light reading, while persons of sedentary occupation are to take plenty of open air exercise. A feeble circulation is to be overcome and cold feet are to be warmed. The stomach is to be attended to if the digestion is not good. If it is overloaded and easy and refreshing sleep is impossible. Weakness and invalids often find a cup of hot broth or gruel, or some other light and easily digestible food taken on retiring to be the best promotive of sleep. The bed should neither be too hard nor too soft, nor the clothing too abundant nor too scanty. All unpleasant sights, sounds and smells should be excluded. Regular and early hours of retiring are essential. No victim of insomnia can with safety burn the midnight oil or engage in evening dissipation. The man who observes these precautions and adds thereto a clear conscience and a sound mind has the promise of undisturbed sleep.

A student troubled with insomnia discarded his feather pillow for one of hair with wonderful effect. The hair pillow does not get warmed up to an uncomfortable degree, because it rapidly conducts away the heat imparted to it by the head. The same person found that sleep could be brought on by simply warming the body, especially the feet, or by taking a walk, or by a cold shower or sponge bath, following by rubbing with a coarse towel. Getting out of bed for a few minutes when the air was cool often brought relief. He had lain awake half the night, and then after being up long enough to get a drink of lemonade, had fallen asleep at once on going to bed. This student found that a light lunch just before going to bed relieved his brain by drawing the blood to his stomach.

Another victim of sleeplessness found that a continuous low noise favored sleep. The sound of water dropping on a pan has been prescribed by a physician. The explanation seems to be that a simple monotonous impression quiets the brain by occupying it, to the exclusion of more varied and interesting, and therefore stimulating, impressions. On the same principle are the devices of counting backward or forward, imagining sheep jumping one by one, through a gate, etc., but they are open to the objection of causing one portion of the brain to be excited in order to control the rest of it.

A man who has "struck upon the right plan at last," and who opens up to the world something that is calculated to make mankind rejoice and do away with all sleeplessness, writes that all you have to do is to imagine yourself going on a long journey. Think over the details of it every night, and sleep lags. The plan made him healthy and happy.

A physician has one simple remedy—which requires no medicine. Compose the mind as much as possible, and confine the thoughts to one subject, or a number or individual, a close the eyelids, rolling the eyes continuously in one direction. In a short time consciousness will be lost and you will be in the blissful land of dreams. After an experience of two years another man found that he was always able to go to sleep very shortly after retiring to rest by keeping his eyes looking down; he found that they turned up when he was sleeping and cogitating something that kept him awake.

An editor finds relief by wetting a cloth with cold water and blinding it across his forehead. Another plan is to draw in along, slow breath by the nose, and to force the breath out through the nose, imagining that the currents can be seen. An attempt may also be made to read an amusing novel in bed or to repeat a familiar poem, but all study or serious reading should be stopped half an hour before going to bed. In a paper read by a physician before the Boston Society for Medical Improvement, he said that sleeplessness is often caused by starvation, and that a tumbler of milk drunk in the middle of the night will often put people to sleep when hypnosis would fail of their purpose.

#### CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

11th March, 1888.—At 4 p.m.

STATION.	Barometer.	Thermometer.	Humidity.	Wind.	Direction.	Force.	Weather.	Rain.
Whitlock	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Pekin	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Nagasaki	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Amoy	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Hongkong	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Shanghai	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Yokohama	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Manila	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00

12th March, 1888.—At 4 a.m.

STATION.	Barometer.	Thermometer.	Humidity.	Wind.	Direction.	Force.	Weather.	Rain.
Whitlock	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Pekin	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Nagasaki	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Amoy	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Hongkong	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Shanghai	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Yokohama	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00
Manila	30.00	72	75	W	1	1	Cloudy	0.00

The barometer has fallen along the coast and in Japan and is very slight. Cloudy, warm, damp and close weather prevails.

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#### To-day's Advertisements.

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA (FLORIO AND RUBATTINO UNITED COMPANIES).

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND BOMBAY, having connexion with Company's Mail Steamers to ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, MESSINA, NAPLES (LEGHORN) and GENOA; all MEDITERRANEAN, ADRIATIC, LIGURIAN, and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS up to CALLAO. Taking Cargo at through rates to PERSIAN GULF and BAGDAD. THE Company's Steamship.

"BISAGNO,"

Captain Tognasso, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 17th instant, at Noon. At Bombay the Steamers are discharging in Prince's Dock.

For further particulars regarding Freight and Passage, apply to

CARLOWITZ & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 12th March, 1888. [299]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, AND ADELAIDE.

(Calling at QUEENSLAND PORT, and taking through Cargo to NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)

THE Steamship

"CATTERTHUN,"

Captain Darke, will be despatched for the above Ports, on SATURDAY, the 17th inst., at 3 P.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 12th March, 1888. [291]

FOR SALE, CHEAP.

SEVERAL RELIABLE HACKS AND CARRIAGE PONIES.

A First-class London made DOG-CART AND THREE BASKET CARRIAGES, all in good order.

For Particulars, Apply to

No. 6, PEDDER'S HILL.

Hongkong, 20th May, 1886. [291]

Masonic.

ST. JOHN LODGE

OF HONGKONG,

No. 618, S.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above named Lodge will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, TO-MORROW, the 13th instant, at 8.30 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.

Hongkong, 5th March, 1888. [268]

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

MR. M. GROTE has this day been admitted a PARTNER in our Firm.

CHATER & VERNON.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1888. [53]

NOTICE.

MR. CHR. NONCHEN has been authorised to sign our Firm per-procuration.

PUSTAU & Co.

Canton, 14th February, 1888. [189]

Insurances.

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000

RESERVE FUND.....\$240,000.00

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEY SING, Esq. LO YUK MOON, Esq.

LOU TSO SHUN, Esq.

MANAGER—HO AMEL.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1885. [877]

NOW READY.

PRICE.....FIFTY CENTS.







